

EDUCATION ASSESSMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY REVIEW SUBCOMMITTEE

Minutes

October 14, 2025

Call to Order and Roll Call

The second meeting of the Education Assessment and Accountability Review Subcommittee was held on October 14, 2025, at 10:00 AM in Room 131 of the Capitol Annex. Representative Timmy Truett, Chair, called the meeting to order, and the secretary called the roll.

Present were:

Members: Representative Timmy Truett, Co-Chair; Senator Matthew Deneen, Co-Chair; Senator Stephen West; and Representatives Kim Banta, Tina Bojanowski, and Steve Riley.

Guests: Sabrina Smith, Research Analyst, Office of Education Accountability (OEA); Dr. Deborah I. Nelson, Research Division Manager, OEA; and Bryan Jones, Acting Deputy Director, OEA.

LRC Staff: Yvette Perry, Lauren Busch, Joshua Collins, Emily Wiley, Peter Wright, and Jay Harris.

Approval of July 14, 2025, Minutes

Motion was made by Representative Riley, seconded by Senator Deneen, to approve the July 14, 2025, minutes. The motion passed by voice vote.

Office of Education Accountability Report: Early Childhood Regional Training Centers (RTCs)

Sabrina Smith, Research Analyst, OEA, presented data on Kentucky's Early Childhood Regional Training Center (RTCs).

Responding to Chair Truett, Ms. Smith stated that OEA staff informally discussed the report's findings with the Kentucky Department of Education (KDE). She stated that OEA received some questions on expenditures but did not really receive correspondence on OEAs findings. She also stated KDE is not required to follow any of OEA's recommendations.

Responding to Representative Bojanowski, Ms. Smith stated there is nothing in the federal

grant that requires RTCs.

Responding to Representative Bojanowski, Ms. Smith stated she can follow-up with information on neighboring states and how they are handling this federal grant.

Responding to Senator West, Ms. Smith stated the report shows 2024 expenditures and how the RTCs spend money. RTCs also provide and attend regional and national trainings.

Responding to Senator West, Ms. Smith stated the statute could be repealed. KDE is allowed to set aside and distribute those funds on different activities. Ms. Smith further stated these are IDEA B federal dollars and even if the model would change, the funding would not.

Motion was made by Representative Riley to accept the report, seconded by Co-Chair Deneen. Motion passed by voice vote.

Office of Education Accountability: 2025 Study Agenda

Bryan Jones, Acting Deputy Director, OEA; and Dr. Deborah Nelson, Research Division Manager, OEA, presented the proposed 2025 study agenda for OEA.

Responding to Chair Truett, Dr. Nelson stated one example of an issue to be addressed by the changes would be that in the study data of staff from previous years are staff counts intended to be reported to the federal government but contract staff are being under reported. She stated that including the appendix will allow OEA to outline these issues and provide the committee information on how the issues are being resolved.

Responding to Co-Chair Deneen, Dr. Nelson stated that OEA would provide a status update on prior recommendations made to KDE, specifically on KRS 157.420.

Motion was made by Co-Chair Deneen, seconded by Senator West, to approve the Office of Education Accountability: 2025 Study Agenda. Motion passed by voice vote.

Adjournment

With no further business to come before the committee, the meeting adjourned at 10:40 AM.